

HA-1786
1925
Bel Air Private

The Finney House, 310 Williams St., faces east on a large tree-shaded lot in Richardson's Addition. Built in 1925, it is a 2 story, 3 bay vernacular house with a slate roof and front dormer.

Building began west of Main St. in Richardson's Addition in the 1880s; it and the Hayes Addition begun at the same time are the oldest extensions of the town. It is a mix of styles from Victorian to brick rancher, and a mix of classes as well, with working-man's housing along the north and south edges and middle class homes through the center. This house, in the vernacular style so popular in Bel Air before and after the First World War, was built for William O. Finney, work beginning the week of 24 April 1925. It is similar to the German House down the street at 151 Williams St. [HA-1785] which was built in either 1926 or 1927, and the original Foster House around the corner at 48 W. Gordon [HA-1789], built in 1931, as well as several others in Ingleside and Kenmore, all built about the same time.

HA-1786
Finney House
Bel Air, Harford Co.

FRAMEWORK FOR IDENTIFYING COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

3. Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period:

x 11. Industrial/Urban Dominance 1870-1930

___ 12. Modern Period 1930 - present

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme:

2. Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community
Planning

Resource Type:

Category: Architecture

Historic Environment: Urban

Historic Function and Use: Private Residence

Known Design Source: unknown

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. HA-1786

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Finney House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 310 Williams St. n/a not for publication

city, town Bel Air vicinity of congressional district 3rd

state MD county Harford

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mr. and Mrs. Donald C. Finney

street & number 310 Williams St. telephone no.: 838-4583

city, town Bel Air state and zip code MD 21014

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Harford County Courthouse liber 926

street & number Bel Air folio 1052

city, town Bel Air state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. HA-1786

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☐ altered
☐ unknown

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Contributing resource count: one

The Finney House, 310 Williams St., faces east on a large tree-shaded lot in Richardson's Addition. Built in 1925, it is a 2 story, 3 bay house in the vernacular style popular in the neighborhood and the town both before and after World War I.

The house's gable slate roof is broken in front by 2 hipped dormers which each have a pair of 9 pane casement windows. Its 1/1 double-hung sash windows, paired in the middle bay of the second story front and first story rear (west) are flanked by black plastic shutters, as is the door in the north bay of the facade. The hip-roofed front porch is carried on 4 simple round posts linked by a square post balustrade.

An enclosed shed porch ia across 2 bays in the north part of the west elevation and a side entrance in the north elevation has a shed stoop. A center chimney with a black cap in the ridge of the roof completes the exterior of this simple but elegant house.

The interior was not accessible.

8. Significance

Survey No. HA-1786

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1925 Builder/Architect unknown

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Building began west of Main St. in Richardson's Addition in the 1880s; it and the Hayes Addition, begun at the same time, are the oldest extensions of the town. It is a mix of styles from Victorian to brick rancher, and a mix of classes as well, with working-man's housing along the north and south edges and middle class homes through the center. This house, in the vernacular style so popular in Bel Air before and after the First World War, was built for William O. Finney, work beginning the week of 24 April 1925. It is similar to the German House down the street at 151 Williams St. [HA-1785] which was built in either 1926 or 1927, and the original Foster House around the corner at 48 W. Gordon [HA-1789], built in 1931, as well as several others in Ingleside and Kemore, all built about the same time.

In 1973, Mr. Finney sold the property to his son Donald after the death of his wife Evelyn Pyle Finney. He moved around the corner to West Broadway, where he lived in 106 and then 108 [HA-1799, HA-1800], houses his wife had inherited from her parents, Herman and Bertha Pyle. The house is still occupied by Donald Finney.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. HA-1786

Harford County Land Records.
The Aegis, 24 April 1925.
Site visit, June 1993.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Bel AirQuadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Parcel 454 in the Town of Bel Air, 22,500 sq. ft.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Dr. Marilyn M. Lareworganization _____ date 6-21-93street & number RD 1 Box 219 New Park Rd. telephone 717-993-3557city or town New Park state PA 17352

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2026
514-7600

HA-1786
Finney House
310 Williams St.
Bel Air, MD 21014

owner: Donald Finney

926/1052 18 May 1973
William O. Finney, widower
to
Donald C. Finney & Dora C., wife
lots 32-37, block E, Richardson's Addition

title splits

title to lots 32-35

181/300 straw deeds to put Evelyn on, suggesting marriage and
house built subsequently

181/299 15 March 1923
to and from Bessie L. Renwick
lots 32-35

178/47 13 April 1922
Joanna L. Sherman and George T., husband
to
William Finney
\$365 for lots 34 and 35

164/169 9 June 1919
Joanna L. Sherman and George T., husband
to
William C. Finney
\$400 for lots 32 and 33

147/373 24 May 1915
Henrietta Rouse et al
to
George T. Sherman and Joanna L., wife
\$640 for lots 32-35 in block E, Richardson's Addition

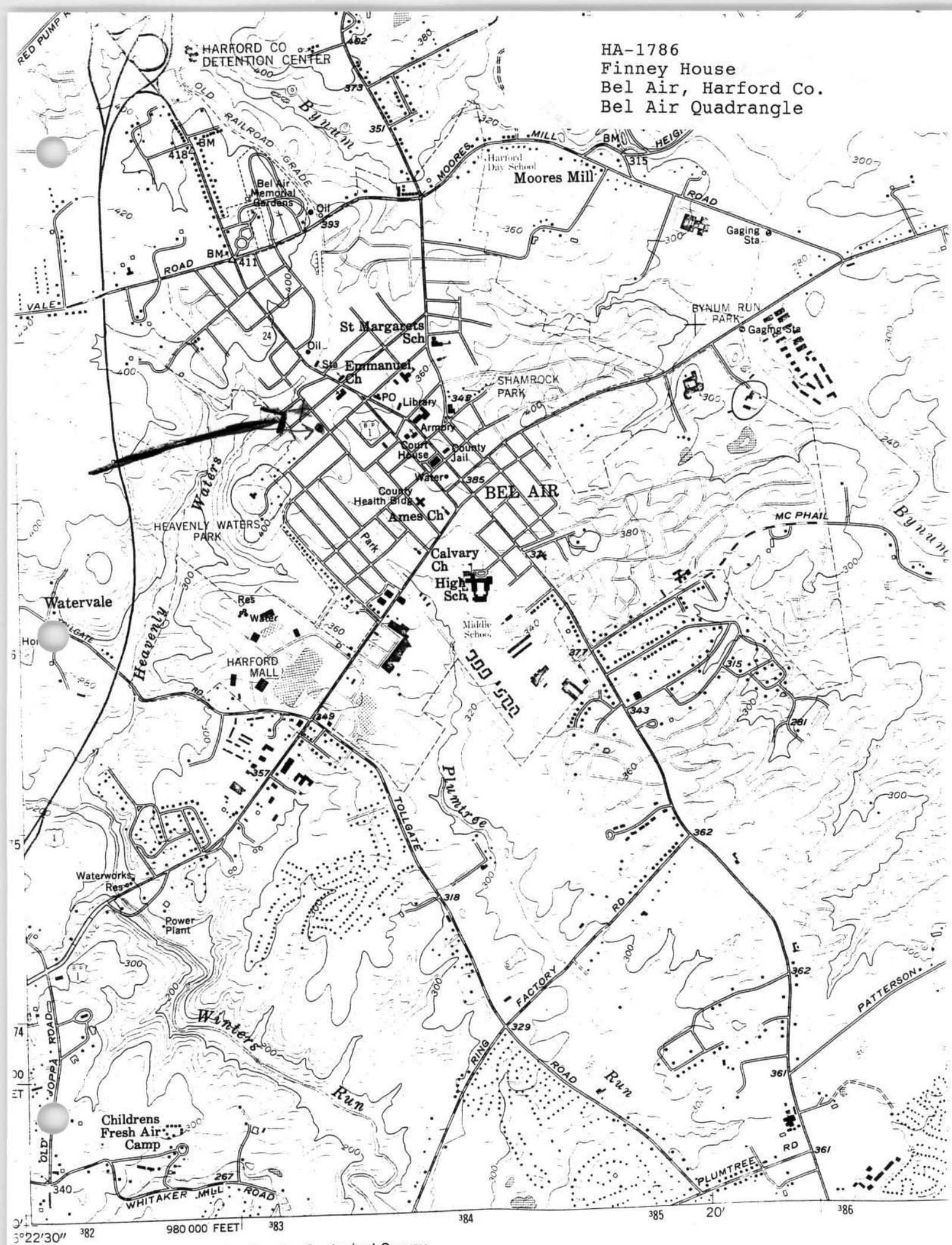
title to lots 36 and 37:

343/245 7 June 1950
Herman B. Pyle and Bertha C., wife
to
William O. Finney and Evelyn Pyle Finney, wife to
William and daughter to Herman and Bertha
lots 36 and 37 in block E of Richardson's Addition

198/185 21 April 1926
 David J. Wilson
 to
 Herman B. Pyle and Bertha
 \$400 for lots 36 and 37

147/362 24 May 1915
 Henrietta G. Rouse, et al
 to
 David J. Wilson
 lots 36 and 37
 the subdivision date: 15 May 1915
 The Rouses and Mary Richardson sub-divided Richardson's
 Addition.

HA-1786
Finney House
Bel Air, Harford Co.
Bel Air Quadrangle





HA-1786

FINNEY HOUSE

HARFORD CO. MD

M. LARSEN

6/93

SHPO

E. E. 172

172

310 WILLIAMS ST.

BEL AIR



44-1786

FINNEY HOUSE
HARTFORD CO., MD.
M. LARRO

6/93

SHPO

W. E. L. E. L.

2072

310 WILLIAMS ST.
BEL AIR